

December 1996

# LIMS NEWS



A Laboratory Information Management System (LIMS) Publication

Issue: 1



## LIMS Operational at Initial Operating Sites (IOSs)!

*LIMS reached Initial Site Acceptance (ISA) at WR-ALC in May 1996, NADEP Jacksonville and CCAD in June, and OC-ALC in July. SA-ALC is the last IOS to achieve IOC which will occur in November 1996.*

**F**eedback from the sites has been positive especially with the quality of work being performed by the implementing contractor, Decision Systems Technologies, Inc. (DSTI). "They really went the extra mile" says Tom Gucwa, Joint Logistics Systems Center (JLSC) LIMS Project Manager. "They got the job done even if it meant staying in the lab until 3:00 a.m., which they did at Warner Robins Air Logistics Center (ALC)."

"LIMS is a powerful tool in helping us reach our goals at NADEP Cherry Point. It will be easier to improve the flexibility required to analyze materials in a constantly changing environment, and it will provide for more effective management of laboratory assets, people and time."

George Barnett  
Industrial Chemicals  
NDI Branch Head

The next four sites scheduled to receive LIMS are NADEP North Island, Sacramento ALC, Ogden ALC and NADEP Cherry Point. These sites have completed their site survey activities and will be reaching ISA later this fall and winter. These sites represent the second group of depots to receive LIMS after the Initial Operating Sites (IOS) were completed in November 1996.

## LIMS Benefits

**L**IMS provides significant benefits to depot laboratory operations. The system will improve resource use and make day-to-day work more efficient by automating information gathering, laboratory analysis and reporting. LIMS brings lab personnel a better way to manage lab information and resources.

### Tangible Benefits

- Reduced turnaround time
- Increased laboratory throughput
- Improved resource use
- Better quality of laboratory data

### Intangible Benefits

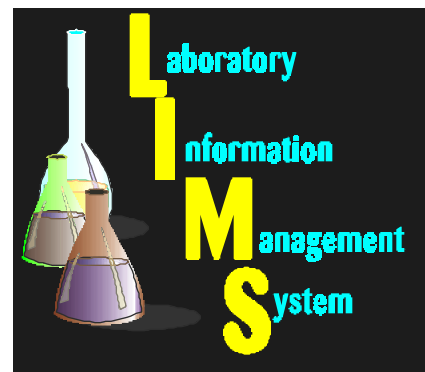
- State-of-the-market information processing
- Better service management
- More efficient work processes

### Compliance with Regulatory Requirements

- Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requirements
- Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) requirements
- Laboratory certification for Generally Accepted Laboratory Practices (GALP), ISO 9000

## LIMS on the Move

2-6 December 1996	IKE system training held at the Dayton office of Decision Systems Technologies, Inc. (DSTI)
9-20 December 1996	NADEP Cherry Point Initial Site Acceptance
6-10 January 1997	NADEP Cherry Point Initial Site Acceptance user training
6-24 January 1997	NADEP North Island Initial Site Acceptance
3-7 February 1997	NADEP North Island Initial Site Acceptance user training
27 January – 7 February 1997	Sacramento Air Logistics Center Initial Site Acceptance
17-21 February 1997	Sacramento Air Logistics Center Initial Site Acceptance user training





## LIMS at AFCEA INFOTECH '96 Exposition

*The Armed Forces Communications Electronics Association (AFCEA) held its annual exposition the week of 7-11 October 1996 at the Dayton Convention Center Dayton, Ohio.*

The LIMS demonstration was conducted by the implementing contractor, Decision System Technologies, Inc. (DSTI). The demonstration provided hands-on examples of the LIMS environment. A database of actual laboratory information taken from WR-ALC, Oklahoma City ALC, Corpus Christi Army Depot, and NADEP Jacksonville was used to illustrate the functionality of LIMS. Operations and calculations

were demonstrated to participants who were interested in seeing the login procedure, how data is entered, how data is captured and stored, report generation capabilities, and how this information is manipulated for laboratory personnel. Participants could fully investigate LIMS functionality and have their questions answered by the personnel who are actually implementing the program during this real time demonstration.

The JLSC demonstrated four programs at the AFCEA INFOTECH '96 Exposition:

- Laboratory Information Management System (LIMS) from Depot Maintenance
- Provisioning and Cataloging Technical Support System (PCTSS) from Materiel Management
- Automated Technical Order (TO) Review/Change
- Automated Engineering Change Proposal (ECP) Review from Automated Systems Demonstrations

## New Opportunities for LIMS

*Wright Laboratories located at Wright-Patterson AFB, OH is interested in learning about the LIMS application.*

Members of the LIMS program team consisting of Tom Gucwa, LIMS Project Manager, Donn Storch, system engineer, Maj. Richard Powell, DM System Specialized Support Head, Lt. Col. Gil Fairley, Assistant Director Requirements Directorate, and Steve Breitenstein, program management support, presented the LIMS application to Dr. Bill Borger, Chief of Operations, for Wright Laboratories on November 7, 1996. Wright Laboratories representatives viewed the LIMS demonstration at the Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association (AFCEA) conference held in Dayton, OH the week of 7-11 October and requested a presentation in order to determine if LIMS could aid their operations. Dr. Borger pointed out that there are significant differences between a depot

**LIMS has been given permission to seek out non-depot customers that display an interest in the system.**

production environment and a research institution. While the depot's workload consists mainly of test and evaluation (T&E) activities, Wright Laboratories centers around research and development (R&D). Tom Gucwa explained that LIMS is sufficiently robust to accommodate both types of lab environments. Specifically for the R&D labs, LIMS can make the archiving and retrieval of data much easier. This information would be on-line in a central data repository instead of stored in multiple computers or worse yet in boxes or file cabinets. Also, LIMS aids in the ever increasing need for lab certification and accreditation required for certain lab workloads. The advantages to having lab-wide information on a single system could prove significant savings in both time and money.

## Now on Contract

*By 30 November 1996, LIMS should be on contract to deliver its system to selected Army depots. The sites slated to receive LIMS are as listed below.*

- ☒ Anniston Army Depot (ANAD)
- ☒ Letterkenny Army Depot (LEAD)
- ☒ Tobyhanna Army Depot (TYAD)
- ☒ Red River Army Depot (RRAD)

**The first site survey has been completed at Anniston Army Depot with Letterkenny Army Depot scheduled for November 1996. The remaining sites will have their surveys completed by March 1997.**



## Adding New Team Members

*LIMS implementing contractor Decision Systems Technologies, Inc. (DSTI) is adding new members to the team to help meet the increasing work load and to satisfy depot customers' requirements.*

**M**ark Kelly, LIMS DSTI Project Manager, reports the addition of two more teams consisting of five new members who will help the depots reach their Initial Site Acceptance and Final Site Acceptance dates on time. "The hiring of new people emphasizes even more DSTI's

commitment to deploying to the depots on time and giving each site the necessary attention to successfully implement LIMS," says LIMS Project Manager Tom Gucwa. The use of these

**"It will allow us to be at two (or more) places at once"**

Tom Gucwa  
LIMS Project Manager

teams will allow for concurrent site deployments coordinated by Mark

Kelly and Tom Gucwa. The new teams will be on board by December and ready to go no later than early January 1997.



## AFCEA Big Success for LIMS

*And you say trade shows aren't necessarily productive...*

**W**hile attending the Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association (AFCEA) technical exhibition, the LIMS project manager was able to correct a configuration error associated with servers which had been ordered to support LIMS in DoD Fuels Laboratories. By putting together an ad hoc meeting including a Hewlett Packard

software specialist, a Hewlett Packard server hardware specialist, an Oracle sales person, from the Oracle booth; a configuration specialist, the sales person from the hardware vendor, supporting the PRC booth; and the LIMS system engineer, the LIMS project manager was able to identify ordering errors and needed equipment not listed.

The PRC sales manager was able to delay the order until the necessary paperwork was completed to specify the needed changes. Although the immediate savings of around \$2,000 per site (for five sites) is small, the changes avoided unexpected additional charges of nearly \$100,000 per site. Way to go LIMS Team!!

## LIMS to be Deployed to Fuel Labs

*The Joint Logistics System Center (JLSC) has been chosen to deploy LIMS to eleven fuels labs throughout the country and overseas.*

**T**his project is being funded by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and San Antonio ALC/SFTL to allow its agents to use existing labs to perform fuel analysis on field samples. Labs to be used are located at Searsport ME, Wright-Patterson AFB, MacDill AFB, Mulkiteo WA, Vandenberg AFB, Holloman AFB, San Antonio ALC/SFTL, Cape Canaveral AFS, and three overseas sites at RAF Mildenhall, Kadena AB JA, and Aviano AB IT.

IRS agents are responsible for the monitoring and enforcement of fuels usages

throughout the country. Fuels used in non-road vehicles (usually associated with the construction industry) like bulldozers, earthmovers, cranes, etc. are dyed red and not taxed because they do not use interstate/state roads. The non-taxed fuels are less expensive and can still be used in road vehicles. Monitoring compliance is a full time job for the IRS. By utilizing the existing fuels labs within geographic regions, it will save time and reduce the cost of outsourcing tests to commercial labs.



**Joint Logistics  
Systems Center  
(JLSC) Directorate  
for Depot  
Maintenance**

### **Mission Statement**

**"Equip the forces with improved standardized and interoperable logistics processes, systems, and information."**

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